PRESIDENTIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND JUDICIAL INTEGRITY ACT OF 2029

Section 1. Short Title

This Act may be cited as the **"Presidential Accountability and Judicial Integrity Act of 2029."**

Section 2. Purpose and Findings

(a) Purpose

To clarify the limits of presidential immunity, enhance the independence of the Department of Justice, protect the integrity of legal proceedings involving current and former presidents, and reaffirm the constitutional balance of powers in the United States.

(b) Congressional Findings

Congress finds that: 1. The U.S. Constitution vests executive power in the President but does not confer absolute immunity from legal accountability. 2. Existing DOJ policy prohibiting the prosecution of a sitting president is based on internal guidance, not statutory law or judicial precedent. 3. Recent events have exposed vulnerabilities in presidential accountability, particularly surrounding deferred or dismissed prosecutions. 4. Public confidence in the impartiality of the DOJ and the judiciary is essential to sustaining democratic governance. 5. The re-election of a sitting president should not serve as a de facto shield from justice.

Title I – Presidential Immunity Reform

Sec. 101. Scope of Immunity

(a) A President shall retain **limited immunity** from criminal prosecution only for official acts that are specifically and demonstrably within the scope of constitutional duties.

(b) Non-official acts, including actions related to campaign activities, personal business ventures, private communications, or any acts undertaken with a direct intent to personally benefit from the office, are **not protected by this immunity**. "Personal benefit" includes financial gain, property, services, or other things of value, as well as benefits conferred upon friends, relatives, or business associates.

(c) The Presidential Accountability and Judicial Integrity Oversight Board (Title III) may issue **advisory legal opinions** to guide the DOJ. Such opinions shall carry **presumptive weight** in DOJ decision-making and may be reviewed by federal courts under Sec. 302(b) if challenged.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit Congress's constitutional authority to impeach the President.

Title II – Special Counsel Appointment and Removal

Sec. 201. Appointment of Special Counsel

(a) When an investigation involving a sitting or former President is initiated, the Attorney General shall nominate a Special Counsel from a **pre-approved, bipartisan list** maintained by the Oversight Board.

(b) The Oversight Board shall hold a **public confirmation hearing** within 45 days of the Attorney General's nomination.

(c) The nominated Special Counsel must be confirmed by a **two-thirds majority** of the Oversight Board. If a nominee fails to receive this threshold within 45 days, a **simple majority** shall suffice.

(d) The Special Counsel may only be removed for **good cause**, defined as misconduct, dereliction of duty, or violation of law, as determined by a **majority vote of the Oversight Board**.

(e) The Special Counsel shall have **full authority to investigate and prosecute** alleged violations of law, subject only to limitations set forth in this Act.

Title III – Presidential Accountability and Judicial Integrity Oversight Board

Sec. 301. Establishment and Composition

(a) The Oversight Board is established as an **independent entity**.

(b) Board membership: - Chief Justice of the Supreme Court: 2 members - Chief Judge of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals: 2 members - Deans of the three highest-ranked accredited law schools: 3 members - Bipartisan leadership of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees: 2 members (one from each party)

(c) Board members serve **staggered 6-year terms**; no more than four members' terms may expire in the same year.

(d) The Board shall hold **quarterly public meetings**, streamed live, to promote transparency.

Sec. 302. Oversight and Enforcement Authority

(a) The Oversight Board may refer **evidence of non-compliance** with this Act to the congressional judiciary committees for review.

(b) The Board may petition a federal court for a **declaratory judgment** to resolve ambiguities regarding the Act's application, provided the petition is approved **unanimously**.

(c) Advisory opinions issued by the Board carry **presumptive weight**, meaning DOJ must justify any decision to depart from guidance in writing, which may be subject to judicial review.

Title IV – General Provisions

Sec. 401. Effective Date

This Act shall take effect **January 1, 2030**, and shall apply to any investigation or prosecution **initiated on or after that date**.

Sec. 402. Review and Continuation

(a) This Act shall remain in effect unless Congress passes a joint resolution to repeal it.

(b) The GAO shall conduct a **full review** of the Act's effectiveness by **December 31, 2035**, triggering a **mandatory public congressional hearing** to assess findings and recommend adjustments.

Sec. 403. Severability

If any provision of this Act is found invalid, the remaining provisions shall **remain in full force and effect**.